

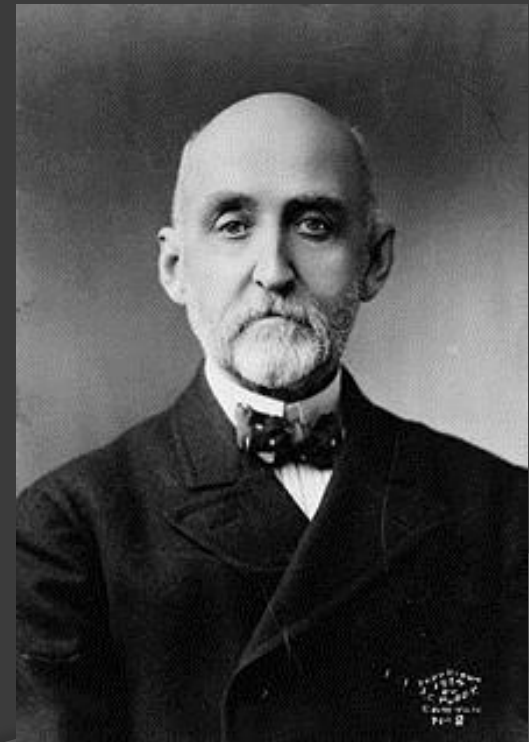
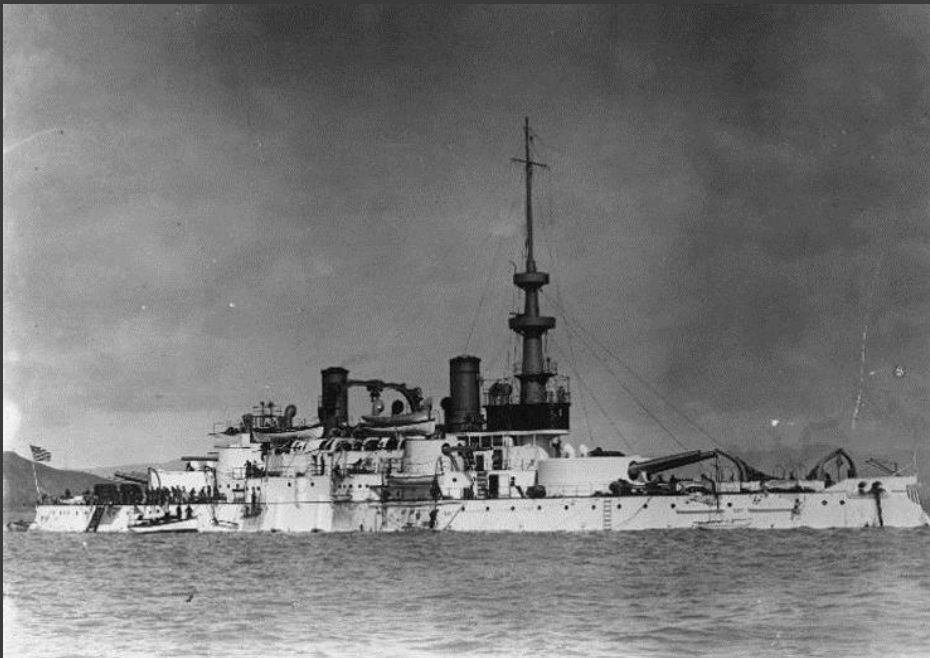


“THE UNITED STATES AND LATIN AMERICA”



The USS Oregon

During the Spanish-American War, the *USS Oregon* required six weeks to complete the 14,000 mile trip from San Francisco to the Caribbean ~ illustrating the need for a canal through Central America for the security of the United States. Advocates for a strong and efficient United States Navy – like Theodore Roosevelt – saw reasons for concern.

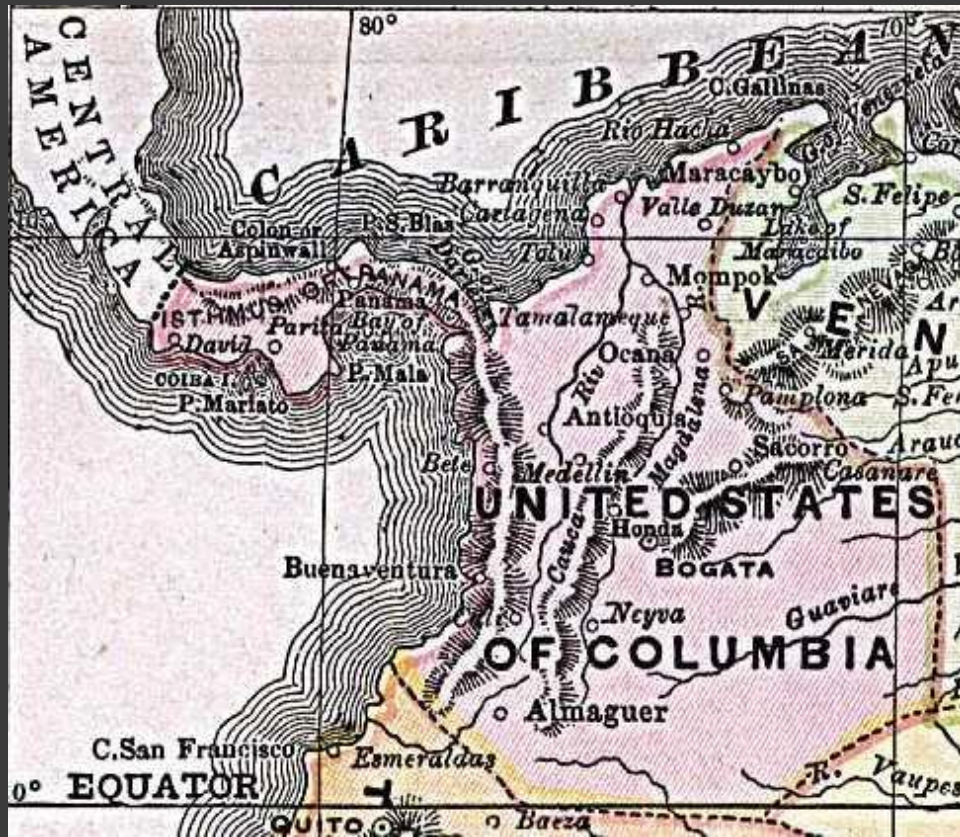




President Theodore Roosevelt, 1901 ~ 1909

President Roosevelt was determined to build a canal across Central America in order to improve trade and the efficiency of the United States Navy. He was the primary motivator behind the construction of the canal across Central America – and he took all the credit! Two proposals were seriously considered – one across Nicaragua, and the other across Panama, where France had previously failed to complete a canal connecting the oceans.

Roosevelt negotiates with Colombia



Colombia was offered \$10 Million cash and yearly rent totally \$250,000.

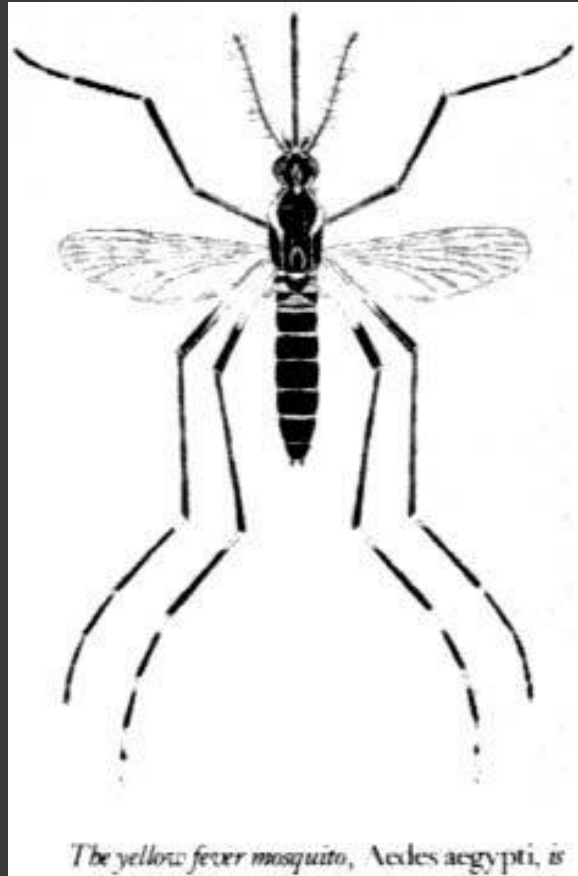
Roosevelt was impatient when Colombia refused what he considered a good offer.

Independence for Panama

- ◎ In 1903, Panama revolted against Colombian rule.
- ◎ The United States sent troops to Bogota to control any Colombian response.
- ◎ Newly independent Panama agreed to allow the United States to build a canal across a 10-mile wide strip of land for \$10 Million cash and \$250,000 a year in rent.



The Panama Canal and Disease



The Mosquito, which caused both Yellow Fever and Malaria, killed thousands in Panama.



Dr. William Gorgas, who believed in the mosquito causation theory, effectively wiped out diseases in the Panama Canal Zone.

The Construction of the Panama Canal, 1903 - 1914

Boatload of workers from Barbados arrives in
Port of Cristobal 1909



Most of the laborers and Workers who built the Panama Canal were from the West Indies and of African descent – thousands died in the process.

Most of the engineers and supervisors who built the Panama Canal were Americans – and very few died in the process.

The Panama Canal



“Speak softly and carry a big stick;
you will go far.”



Roosevelt believed that Americans must be ready to use force to get their way if diplomacy failed.



The Roosevelt Corollary

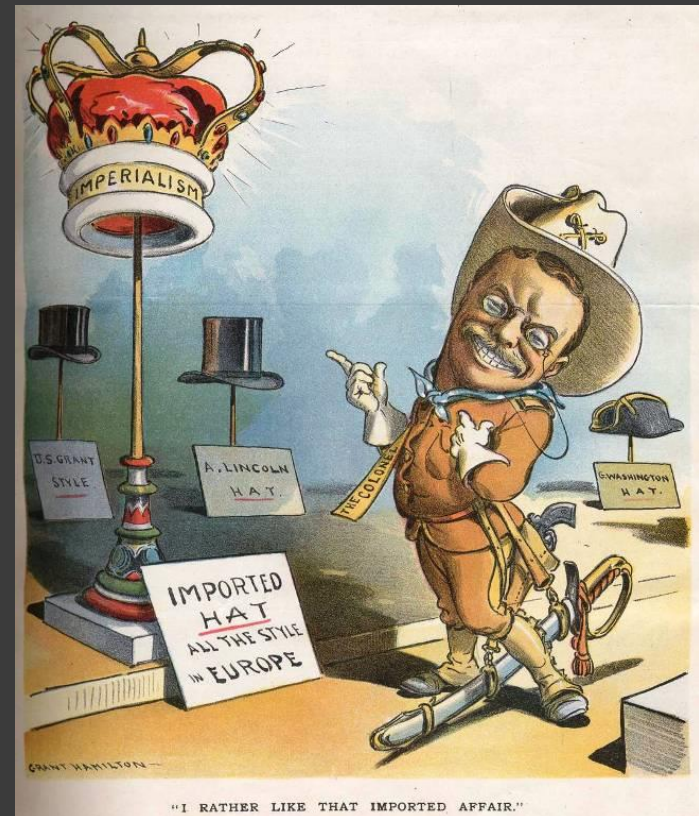
- An addition to the Monroe Doctrine which argued that “when the neighbors of the United States got into disputes with foreign nations, the United States had the right to ‘exercise international police power’ to restore order. The United States was creating its own Sphere of Influence – in the entire Western Hemisphere.



Not surprisingly, Europeans and Latin Americans had a different take on the Roosevelt Corollary than Americans did.



Europeans were surprised the Roosevelt claimed all of the Western Hemisphere as a “Sphere of Influence.”



Latin American nations, on the other hand, felt the United States was interfering in their own domestic affairs.

Big Stick Diplomacy, Gunboat Diplomacy, Dollar Diplomacy, and Moral Diplomacy...

Dollar diplomacy was a foreign policy based on the idea that economic ties were the best way to expand American influence in Latin America. Taft sought to protect United States economic investments in Latin America – and would use military force or coercion if necessary. Note the frequent interventions in Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic – as well as Mexico – where the protection of American business interests was prioritized over the government's legitimacy in the people's eyes or the ability of the government to address the people's needs.





Woodrow Wilson's Moral Diplomacy

Woodrow Wilson believed that the United States should follow a foreign policy which aimed to support and nurture the development of democracy throughout the world. In Latin America, he felt that the United States must teach the people the value of good democratic governments. Abroad in Europe, he would ask the United States to enter "The Great War" (World War I to you....) in order to "Make the World Safe for Democracy."

Revolution in Mexico

- Wilson twice invaded Mexico, however, which was in a constant state of revolution during the 1910s. In 1916, Francisco “Pancho” Villa actually attacked the city of Columbus, NM – killing 18 Americans.
- Wilson had invaded Veracruz in 1914 in response to the arrest of several American sailors at Tampico, Mexico.
- During times of political turmoil in Mexico, immigration increased to the United States. The same situation motivates much of the immigration – legal or illegal – in the United States today.

